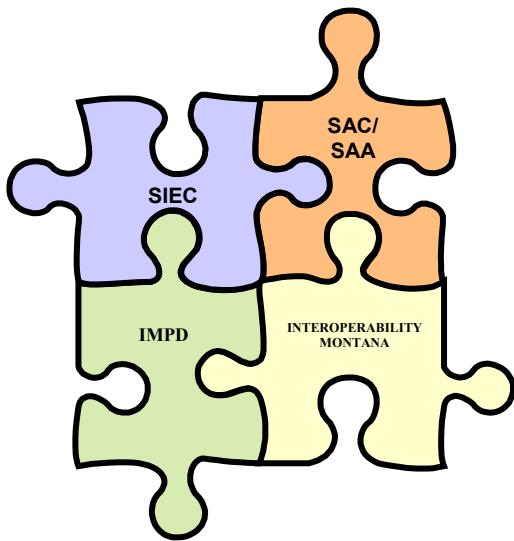




## Definition and Goal

The Montana Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC) defined interoperable communications as the ability of public safety emergency responders from local, tribal, state and federal agencies to work seamlessly, without any special effort. Wireless communications interoperability specifically refers to the ability of public safety officials to share information via voice and data signals on demand, in real time and when needed.



## Inter-relationships

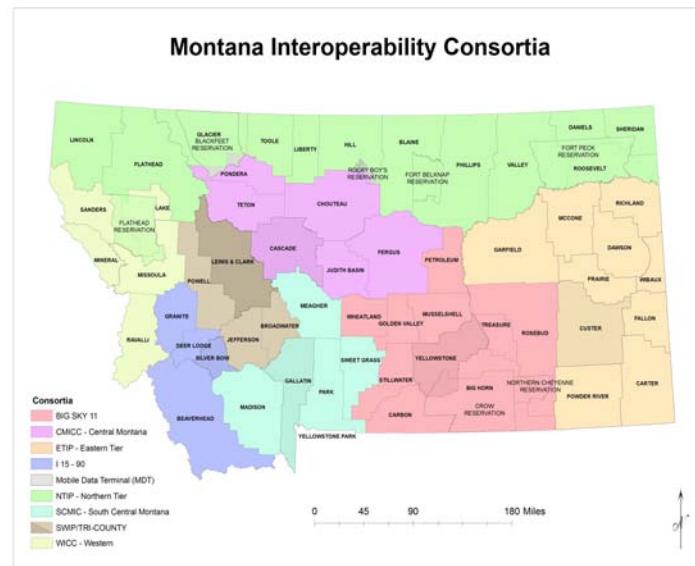
SIEC is a council appointed by the Governor to provide strategic level policy and coordination with respect to interoperable communications. The Board of Project Directors, under authority of the SIEC, is moving forward with the planning and implementation of interoperable communications in Montana.

The Senior Advisory Committee (SAC) provides input to the State Administrative Agency (SAA) on Department of Homeland Security (DHS) grants. The SAC, like the SIEC, works closely with the Interoperability Montana Project Directors. These inter-relationships provide for a fully integrated implementation approach on technology, operations and funding.

## Consortia and Project Directors

County, Tribal, State and Federal agencies have formed nine consortia to deploy Interoperability Montana. Consortium members have elected a project director to represent them on the Interoperability Montana Project Directors (IMPD).

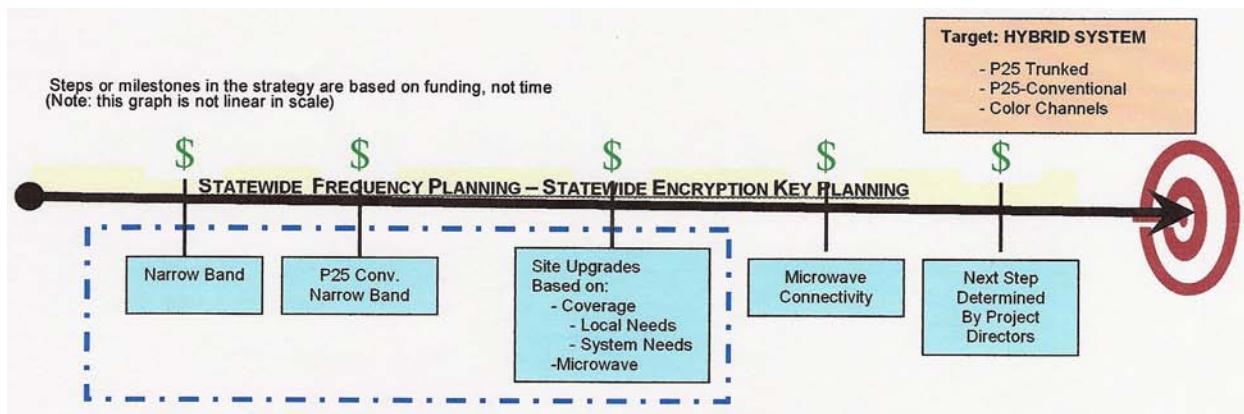
IMPD is a dynamic, cohesive group dedicated to the deployment of Montana wide communications interoperability for public safety responders.



Northrop Grumman Corporation has been selected by IMPD to provide centralized project management (CPM) and frequency management. Use of CPM provides a cost effective, coordinated approach to implementing Interoperability Montana.

## Interoperability Montana Strategy

Interoperability Montana is a grass roots communications interoperability project developed to provide for the safety of our responders and citizens. Our strategy links single county Concept Demonstration Plan I, (CDP I) in Lewis and Clark County with the entire northern tier interoperability project. (CDP II) and continues to extend Interoperability Montana throughout the state.



### Estimated Cost:

While the current projected cost to design, develop, and implement an interoperable radio and data system of this nature and scope has been in excess of \$150 million dollars, system “savings” have already been achieved from thorough analysis. For example, tower infrastructure costs have been considerably less because Consortium “partnerships” have demonstrated a need for less infrastructure to serve a Montana wide system than would be used to service 56 individual county and seven tribal nation systems.

### PROJECT FUNDING PROJECTIONS

Year	Interoperable Communication Cost (Projected)
2006	\$57,600,000
2007	\$43,700,000
2008	\$26,200,000
2009	\$16,200,000
2010	\$ 9,650,000
Total Five Year	\$153,350,000 Million

### Funding and Resources:

Funding for Interoperability initially came from FEMA and Homeland Security Grant Programs. Additional Funding is now coming from Fire grants, state and other Federal agencies. The Montana Legislature is actively involved in the funding of the Northern Tier Interoperability Consortium (CDP 2).

#### 2005 Funding Priorities

